

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 23, 2000 LB 1033, 1115

All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted who care to? Record, please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 32 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Jensen's amendment to the committee amendments.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Amendment AM3024 is adopted to LB 1115. Mr. Clerk, next item.

CLERK: Senator Thompson would move to amend the committee amendments. (AM3025, Legislative Journal page 1238.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Thompson, to open on your amendment, AM3025.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. This bill that is now the committee amendment, and I'm passing out a one-pager on it, was part of what the Health and Human Services Committee did add into the original committee amendment and then, in our winnowing out process this morning, took it out. So I'm going to present it to you and we'll have some consideration of this idea. This was advanced unanimously by the committee and there was no opposition at the hearing to this bill and essentially what it does is ask people not to smoke directly at the doorway of a public building. It backs them up ten feet. And the reason this issue came to me this summer and this fall, and it was discussed last year when we talked about making our buildings smoke free, is we've had some consequences, and I know other public buildings have these too. One example was this fall when a client coming to get services for her disabled child at the State Office Building had an asthma attack walking through the smoke, trying to get into the building. I don't think that should happen to the public. Another is the impact it's had on the employees who go in and out, and also whose offices are close to the entrance to the building, and I'm going to read you a letter from a person who works in the State Office Building and I have talked to her and I think what happened to her will illustrate why this is an important policy to adopt: I understand that you are one of the state senators supporting LB 1033, so I hope you can help me. I'm under strict instructions from my asthma specialist to avoid all cigarette smoke due to my extreme sensitivity to it. I go